

# ESSEX FIELD CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1113963

## Details

---

**Other names** EFC

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2006-04-28

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

---

**Address** The Green Centre  
Wat Tyler Country Park  
Pitsea Hall Lane  
Pitsea  
Basildon  
SS16 4UH

**Phone** 01708 524218

**Email** [j\\_couch@sky.com](mailto:j_couch@sky.com)

**Website** <http://www.essexfieldclub.org.uk/>

## Activities

---

**Objects:** (3.) THE OBJECTS OF THE CLUB SHALL BE: TO PROMOTE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF ESSEX (DEFINED HERE AS THE TOTAL OF THE TWO WATSONIAN VICE-COUNTIES OF NORTH ESSEX AND SOUTH ESSEX) AND TO ADVANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION IN ITS NATURAL HISTORY (DEFINED HERE AS INCLUDING ITS FAUNA, FLORA, GEOLOGY AND LITHIC ARCHAEOLOGY) BY SUCH CHARITABLE MEANS AS THE COUNCIL SEES FIT, IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY:(3.1) STUDYING AND RECORDING NATURAL HISTORY; (3.2) ENCOURAGING AND SUPPORTING THE MAINTENANCE OF AN UP-TO-DATE RECORD OF ALL LOCAL SITES OF NATURAL HISTORY; AND (3.3) PUBLISHING AND MAKING THE USEFUL RESULTS OF RESEARCH, DATA AND OTHER HISTORICAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE, WHERE APPROPRIATE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN FURTHERING THE ABOVE PURPOSES.

**Activities:** WE STUDY, RECORD AND PUBLISH ESSEX NATURAL HISTORY AND GEOLOGY BY FIELD MEETINGS, EXHIBITION MEETING, AGM, SHOW, PUBLISHING JOURNALS AND BOOKS, TEACH COURSES AND OUR GROWING WEBSITE FACILITY, AND FUND SIMILAR GROUPS. GUESTS AND MEMBERS ATTEND MEETINGS, WRITE FOR OUR JOURNALS AND WEBSITE. WEBSITE HAS MORE

INFO EVERY MONTH. WE HAVE A CENTRE NEAR BASILDON. WE EXPECT TO BE A LOCAL RECORD CENTRE SOON

## Classification

---

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

---

- **Area of benefit:** ESSEX.
- Barking And Dagenham
- Essex
- Havering
- Newham
- Redbridge
- Southend-on-sea
- Thurrock
- Waltham Forest

## Finances

---

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£169,088	£67,497	-	-
2024-12-31	£138,247	£69,493	-	-
2023-12-31	£128,292	£59,225	-	-
2022-12-31	£129,049	£66,131	-	-
2021-12-31	£84,715	£65,365	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>William Harry George BA, MCLIP</b>	Chair	2015-03-14
Christopher Philip Harris		2025-03-22
Dr PETER RICHARD HARVEY		
Fiona Mary Hutchings BSc		2016-03-12
James Alexander Clement Silverstone		2023-03-25
John Anthony Johnson		2025-03-22
John Howard Cooke BSc		2014-03-08
MARTIN JOHN HEYWOOD		
Michael John Pannell LLB		2020-03-14
Robert Charles Haig Smith		2022-03-26
SIMON TAYLOR		2012-04-12
Simon David Wood		2024-03-23
Yvonne Margaret Couch Dr		2018-03-10

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1113963

---

# Accounts

---

## **Annual Report of Council for 2025-26**

### **General Introduction and Administration**

The EFC Spring Meeting and AGM was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre, Pitsea, and was attended by 36 members and 5 guests. Simon Taylor was re-elected as President, Peter Harvey as Vice-President and Treasurer, Yvonne Couch as General Secretary, Bill George as Librarian and Archivist, Martin Heywood as Collections and Library Officer, Michael Pannell as Membership Secretary, Fiona Hutchings as Publicity Officer, Rob Smith as Programme Secretary, and Marc Outten, John Cooke, Jim Silverstone and Simon Wood as Ordinary members of Council. Graham Ekins stood down as an Ordinary Member of Council; Johnnie Johnson and Christopher Harris were elected as new Ordinary Members of Council. The Editorial Representative (Peter Harvey) and Editorial Team were also re-elected.

During the AGM members agreed to change the charitable structure of the Club from an Unincorporated Association to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and Simon Taylor agreed to pursue this.

The AGM was accompanied by talks from Graham Ekins on establishing a wildflower lawn at his home in Boreham, and from John Buchanan about the new Chelmer and Blackwater Nature Reserve in the centre of Maldon.

The annual Exhibition and Social was held at the Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park on 6 December, attended by 27 exhibitors and 105 people overall.

Council met 5 times, all via Zoom; at the February 2026 meeting the decision to hold all future meetings via Zoom was confirmed.

The Essex Moth Group held their annual meeting on 28 February 2026 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre.

Essex Field Club/Essex Recorders partnership continued to act as the single biological and geological records centre for Essex.

### **Membership**

We currently have 192 paid-up memberships for 2026, made up of 162 Ordinary members, 3 Honorary members, 2 Institutional members, and 13 Family memberships. Including members who have not yet renewed from last year, the total membership recorded stands at 243.

Sadly, we lost a number of members during the past year, and at present we are not recruiting new members as quickly as we are losing them. Increasing membership therefore remains an important priority for the coming year

### **Meetings**

General field meetings were held at Little Haven, Thundersley; Danbury Common; Heards Farm, Shenfield; Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve on the river Stour; Coppins Farm, Alphamstone; Stow Maries Airfield; Tyler's Wood, Upminster; Ellis Green, Wimbish; and Hazeleigh Woods. Each site was visited 2-4 times between May and October 2025; in 3 cases in July the forecasted high temperature led to the meetings starting and finishing earlier.

The Fungus group held meetings in October and November at Hales Wood, Saffron Walden; Carver Airfield, Debden; RHS Hyde Hall; Swan and Cygnet Woods, Stock; Sandylay EWT, Great Leighs; Tiptree Heath; Mill Meadows, Billericay; EWT Phyllis Currie; Norsey Wood; and in a waxcap special at Fryerning Churchyard and Chelmsford Crematorium.

The Essex Moth Group held group mothing meetings between May and September at Aubrey Buxton EWT; Carver Airfield, Debden; Fingringhoe Wick; Tiptree Heath; Cymbeline Meadows. Colchester; Cudmore Grove Mersea; Warley Place; and Saffron Walden Museum.

### **Green Centre Activities**

The Club's activity area and displays were open to the public on the first Saturday of each month. The office, collections and archive were in regular use on Wednesdays by some Council members and were available for visits on a pre-booked basis.

Using the foyer, display areas and part of the Carstairs Room (thanks to Twizzletops day nursery for access) the Exhibition and Social was held at the Green Centre on Saturday 6 December 2025, with at least 105 persons attending. There were 3 tours of the collections and archives (about 18 people took part). Refreshments were provided, 50 Essex Naturalists were given to members, thus saving postage costs, there were 4 new members, 9 membership renewals, and donations (books, refreshments etc) totalled £278.50.

### **Publications**

#### **Essex Naturalist**

The 2024/25 Essex Naturalist comprised 208 pages, with 26 articles in full colour illustrations. An excellent effort by editor Peter Harvey and the Editorial Team. Modern Essex Naturalists can now be downloaded by paid-up members from our website, as well as the existing access to older issues through the searchable archive.

#### **The EFC Newsletter**

There were the usual 3 issues of the Newsletter, with colour illustrations and many interesting articles as well as wildlife updates, reports of some meetings that had taken place, and listings of forthcoming meetings, all put together by the editor Yvonne Couch. Our latest Newsletters can be downloaded from the website by paid-up members, as well as the existing access to older issues through the searchable archive.

### **Collections**

Alan Harman has donated some items to the Club including a Cook Troughton and Simms microscope, slide storage boxes and entomological storage boxes. Bob Cowlin has donated a large number of Essex badger records, mostly made between 1960 and 1990 and consisting of detailed sett records on Mammal Society recording forms, OS maps marked up with sett locations and a card index of setts. Yvonne Couch has catalogued the Club Hemiptera collection and the spreadsheet is available on the Club website. She has also catalogued the plant galls, fungal spore prints and is currently cataloguing the Carter Herbarium. Adrian Knowles continues to catalogue the Coleoptera in the Nigel Cuming Collection and has recently forwarded a third batch of records. He has now dealt with approximately 6000 specimens and estimates that he is about a third of the way through the task. At the newly opened Purfleet Heritage and Military Centre, Ian and Ros Mercer have set up a display telling the geological history of Purfleet. With the help of Bill George they have incorporated a number of specimens from the EFC collections which were discovered in or near Purfleet and these are now on long-term loan to the Centre. For some time there has been an issue with the heating in the archive resulting in the temperature being a few degrees warmer than its set value and causing the humidity to be too low. This has recently been fixed and the humidity is rising to a more acceptable value. Thanks are due to all those mentioned above for their varied contributions to the collections in the past year.

## **Library and Archives**

Our library and archive, held at the Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park, Pitsea has been open to the public on the first Saturday of each month and, by appointment, on a Wednesday. Email enquiries have been answered, and articles and images supplied as requested for research, publication, and display. Often researchers follow up online queries with a visit. Guided tours of the library, archive and collections are popular and three were organised for the Annual Exhibition and Social. We continue to act as a clearing house for book donations. Some were added to our library while others were made available, for a donation, to members and guests every Saturday and also at our AGM and Exhibition and Social. Books, journals, maps, images and manuscripts were added to our library and archive. A large number of images from our archive including photographs, prints, lantern slides and glass negatives continue to be shared on Facebook and added to our website. Dr. Roger Hewitt continued to use the library archive on a weekly basis producing articles for publications. Details of exchange journals and other library and archive information were regularly posted on our Facebook group.

## **Datasearch System**

At the end of January 2026 there were 6,951,038 records for 22,093 species in database tables on our website, all for use by the on-line Datasearch System, which continues to provide comprehensive coverage of county records as an Essex Local Record Centre Service. As well as species data, we also provide information on sites relevant to nature conservation contained in national datasets, together with Local Wildlife Site and Local Geology Site information (sites ratified as qualifying to be at least of county importance). The datasearch reports include the searchable citations and also maps with the Local Wildlife and Geology Sites relevant to a wider search area. Potential Local Wildlife Sites are provided where the GIS polygon data and citations are available.

After unanimous agreement at the Autumn 2025 Essex Recorders partnership Steering Group meeting, the prices for commercial desk study orders were raised by 10%, the first price increase for over 5 years.

Free datasearch outputs were provided to several local resident groups, the Essex Wildlife Trust for several of their reserves, the University of East London to help inform an Adaptability of Forb Plant Species in Seed Mixes in the UK project and to Natural England to update their GCN Opportunity layers.

The inclusion of GIS outputs as part of the datasearch service remains on our development wish list.

## **Website**

At the end of January 2026 our Records database table contained over 3,400,000 million records for 15,110 species in a very wide variety of taxonomic groups. The maps on the Species Account pages are automatically updated with data uploaded to the database and these pages provide ecological and phenological information for 9,778 species from over 2,493,492 records and now also include the mammal data held by the Club and Slime Moulds. Logged-on members can now access their own records in the database through their My Stuff page and the My Records link. They can also download a species report pdf from the species account pages. Active recorders who submit their records can be given access to the details of the records behind the dots on the maps by request.

County Recorders can add and update the text for species and they can also generate an atlas for different taxonomic groups based on the record data that has been recorded.

The new online record submission facility on our website allows direct submission of records. After being initially trialled by members of the Essex Moth Group, this was later extended to all taxonomic groups. Guidance is provided by Verification Difficulty grades and notes for different groups, mostly based on NBN difficulty grades and records are verified by specialists. The advantage of the system is that verified records become immediately available for use on the species pages and in the county database. Different field options could be developed for different groups in discussion with the county recorders and other specialists.

A county map of Local Wildlife and Geology Sites is currently being developed on the website.

### **MapMate**

The Club uses MapMate and Schemes software created by Teknica Ltd to automatically upload new and edited records from our own MapMate database to the Records table on the website and these data are used to populate the species pages where the taxonomic group has enough digitised records to make these useful. Our Records database table is also the main source of our own records used in the datasearch outputs. MapMate and the Schemes software enable our recording and website to effectively manage the very large amount of species data we maintain and to allow any changes to records to be easily accommodated. For this reason, we are keen to encourage its continued use by recorders, and can offer copies to members who currently do not use MapMate for their recording. Although any new software takes time to get used to, the use of MapMate should be quite straightforward and we can also offer support and training course sessions at the Green Centre to cover more advanced use. Moving forward MapMate should continue to work until at least Microsoft support for Windows 11 comes to an end, and there is no reason why this would not continue afterwards. Les Evans-Hill has now made TaxonLibrary updates straightforward, by users replacing their TaxonLibrary.mdb with an updated one made available on the <https://mapmate.info> website with instructions. Updates to date include Lepidoptera, spider checklist updates, aculeate Hymenoptera, Diptera and Thysanoptera (Thrips). Updates for the Coleoptera, Auchenorrhyncha, Heteroptera, terrestrial and freshwater Mollusca, and Isopoda (water- and woodlice) are in hand. Links to the MapMate Facebook page and update page are provided on the EFC website home page.

### **Essex Recorders partnership**

Our data partners provide data updates and commercial use of the Datasearch System continues to provide income, all of which is used to support the Club, our partner county data-providing organisations and to be made available for grant applications which support recording in the county.

At the Spring Steering Group meeting a grant application was approved for a project to use the reliable and non-invasive bioacoustic analysis method for identifying populations of water frogs (*Pelophylax* spp.) in Essex.

### **Planning**

When time and resources allow, we continue to provide input to planning applications in the county affecting sites of high nature conservation importance.

## **Publicity**

### **Online Social Media:**

#### **Facebook**

The Club's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/essexfieldclub>) continues to grow slowly, now having 1326 members (up from 1,200 in 2024). The Facebook page is set up for information purposes only and is not designed to be interactive, unlike the group. The page has a predominantly UK based following (96.6%).

#### **Instagram**

An Instagram account has been set up which has the capacity to share content from the Facebook Page (the accounts are linked). The account has 103 followers and is following 265. So far, there have been 29 posts made.

#### **Twitter**

The Club's Twitter account (@EssexFieldClub) is not active due to access issues. It has 370 followers and is following 37 accounts.

### **Real World Publicity**

The Exhibition and Social took place on 6 December 2025, attended by 105 people (up from 100 in 2024). There were 27 stalls and exhibitors.

A talk about the Essex Field Club has been given to EWT Havering. The talk to Colchester Cage Bird Society was cancelled by CCBS.

Other events attended include Saffron Walden Museum's birthday party, EWT north networking meeting, Sustainable Uttlesford networking meeting, and the Witham BioBlitz (in conjunction with EWT).

Publicity surrounding the finding of a Forester moth at Alphamstone– BBC breakfast, BBC radio stations 4, 5, 6, BBC Essex, BBC website, the iPaper, Halstead Gazette, Anglia Ruskin Facebook (Writtle College), BBC Essex Facebook, Yahoo.com (news), Gateway 97.8 Radio, The Cool Down (webpage), You Tube channel Mark 1333, Anglia Ruskin LinkedIn, Butterfly Conservation LinkedIn. There were many shares on the various social media posts.

### **Finance**

In 2025 the financial status of the Essex Field Club remained strong.

We are very grateful for the many donations we receive from members and for a legacy of £5,000 from the estate of the late Sidney Gordon Letch.

The Datasearch System is our main income source, and has shown a large increase after three previous years at a lower level, which had already increased substantially after the Essex Wildlife Trust joined the partnership.

Essex Recorders partnership payments are included in the accounts.

Council agreed to a £1,000 donation to the Essex Wildlife Trust Wrabness Appeal, which was made in a way to enable match funding to raise it to £2,000.

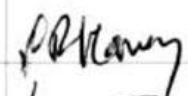

The income from data provision is restricted for use to support the partnership in line with the Terms of Reference agreed by the partners each year at the Spring Steering Group meeting. £10,000 is treated as partnership reserve and other funds are used to support the data providers of the partnership while some is available to provide grants for projects which

support recording in the county.

Interest on savings has shown a marked rise since the move of a large sum from the internet account into a 95-day Lloyds account paying significant interest in September 2024.

Our accountants continue to manage our quarterly VAT accounts, to prepare the year's accounts from the account information we provide and to ensure the accounts are independently examined.

<b>ESSEX FIELD CLUB</b>			
<b>YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025</b>			
<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>			
		<u>31/12/2025</u>	<u>31/12/2024</u>
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions		3,952	3,806
Publications and postage		92	294
Interest receivable		10,721	13,285
Donations		6,172	2,947
Data provision		148,151	117,915
		<b>169,088</b>	<b>138,247</b>
<b>Overheads</b>			
Essex Naturalist		6,243	5,983
Newsletters		2,409	3,875
Postage and telephone		1,897	535
Hire of halls		364	149
Insurance		734	699
Accountancy fees		1,850	1,725
Legal and professional costs		1,400	2,563
Mapmate		-	189
Website		3,014	3,926
Sundry		42	113
EFC Centre		3,468	4,020
Essex Recorders partnership		41,594	43,118
EWT Wrabness Appeal (match funded to £2,000)		1,000	-
Catering		964	624
Bank and Paypal charges		2,518	1,974
		<b>67,497</b>	<b>69,493</b>
<b>Surplus / (Loss) for year</b>		<b>101,591</b>	<b>68,754</b>
<b>Retained surplus b fwd</b>		<b>567,315</b>	<b>498,561</b>
<b>Retained surplus c fwd</b>		<b>668,906</b>	<b>567,315</b>

<b>ESSEX FIELD CLUB</b>			
<b>YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025</b>			
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Lloyds Term investment		-	32,605
Lloyds Fixed Term investment		95,000	-
Lloyds Business investment account		25,685	25,469
Lloyds Internet account		68,946	37,606
Lloyds Treasurer's account		5,797	3,572
Lloyds 32 day notice account		31,685	31,685
Cambridge & Counties Bank 3 yr		89,611	89,611
Hampshire Trust Bank 2 year		92,564	92,334
Lloyds 95 day notice account		260,459	252,705
Cash		1	1
Debtors		9,382	9,108
		<b>679,130</b>	<b>574,695</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
IT Equipment		506	-
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accruals		2,220	1,725
VAT		7,654	5,305
		<b>10,380</b>	<b>7,030</b>
<b>Net assets</b>			
		<b>669,256</b>	<b>567,665</b>
<b>Financed by capital funds</b>			
Income and expenditure account		668,906	567,315
Museum fund		350	350
		<b>669,256</b>	<b>567,665</b>
<b>Notes</b>			
Some funds of the Club are restricted			
Income from Data Searches supports and funds projects of the Essex Recorders partnership			
	04/03/2026		P. Harvey
	04/03/2026		S. Taylor



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees**

Essex Field Club

**On accounts for the year ended**

31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1113963

**Set out on pages**

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2025**

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

*D Bradford*

**Date:**

04/03/2026

**Name:**

Daniel Bradford

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):**

MAAT – Association of Accounting Technicians

**Address:**

Jupiter Business Centre, Paycocke Road, Basildon, Essex SS14 3HX



<b>ESSEX FIELD CLUB</b>			
<b>YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025</b>			
<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>			
		<u>31/12/2025</u>	<u>31/12/2024</u>
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions		3,952	3,806
Publications and postage		92	294
Interest receivable		10,721	13,285
Donations		6,172	2,947
Data provision		148,151	117,915
		<b>169,088</b>	<b>138,247</b>
<b>Overheads</b>			
Essex Naturalist		6,243	5,983
Newsletters		2,409	3,875
Postage and telephone		1,897	535
Hire of halls		364	149
Insurance		734	699
Accountancy fees		1,850	1,725
Legal and professional costs		1,400	2,563
Mapmate		-	189
Website		3,014	3,926
Sundry		42	113
EFC Centre		3,468	4,020
Essex Recorders partnership		41,594	43,118
EWT Wrabness Appeal (match funded to £2,000)		1,000	-
Catering		964	624
Bank and Paypal charges		2,518	1,974
		<b>67,497</b>	<b>69,493</b>
<b>Surplus / (Loss) for year</b>		<b>101,591</b>	<b>68,754</b>
<b>Retained surplus b fwd</b>		<b>567,315</b>	<b>498,561</b>
<b>Retained surplus c fwd</b>		<b>668,906</b>	<b>567,315</b>

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025**  
**BALANCE SHEET**

**Current Assets**

Lloyds Term investment	-	32,605
Lloyds Fixed Term investment	95,000	-
Lloyds Business investment account	25,685	25,469
Lloyds Internet account	68,946	37,606
Lloyds Treasurer's account	5,797	3,572
Lloyds 32 day notice account	31,685	31,685
Cambridge & Counties Bank 3 yr	89,611	89,611
Hampshire Trust Bank 2 year	92,564	92,334
Lloyds 95 day notice account	260,459	252,705
Cash	1	1
Debtors	9,382	9,108

**679,130      574,695**

**Fixed Assets**

IT Equipment	506	-
--------------	-----	---

**Current liabilities**

Accruals	2,220	1,725
VAT	7,654	5,305

**10,380      7,030**

**Net assets**

**669,256      567,665**

**Financed by capital funds**

Income and expenditure account	668,906	567,315
Museum fund	350	350

**669,256      567,665**

Notes

Some funds of the Club are restricted

Income from Data Searches supports and funds projects of the Essex Recorders partnership

04/03/2026  P. Harvey

04/03/2026  S. Taylor



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees**

Essex Field Club

**On accounts for the year ended**

31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1113963

**Set out on pages**

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2025**

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

**Signed:**

*D Bradford*

**Date:**

04/03/2026

**Name:**

Daniel Bradford

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):**

MAAT – Association of Accounting Technicians

**Address:**

Jupiter Business Centre, Paycocke Road, Basildon, Essex SS14 3HX



**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1113963

---

# Accounts

---

## **Annual Report of Council for 2024-25**

### **General Introduction and Administration**

The EFC Spring Meeting and AGM was held on 23rd March 2024 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre, and was attended by 26 members and 3 guests. Simon Taylor was elected as President, and Peter Harvey became Vice President; Peter also took on the role of Treasurer. Simon Wood was elected as a new Ordinary member of Council (and thus Trustee); Rob Smith took on the role of Programme Secretary. Retiring members of Council after some years of excellent service were James Lumbard, Daniel Blyton, Neil Harvey and Richard Parsons. The AGM was followed by a fascinating talk on the wildlife of Epping Forest by naturalist and photographer Peter Warne.

Due to the death of Roger Payne, Yvonne Couch took over as Essex County Recorder for Coccinellidae (Ladybirds) and Rob Smith for other Coleoptera (ground beetles, leaf beetles and longhorn beetles). Due to the infirmity of Graham Ward, Peter Allen took over as County Recorder for Geology. With the agreement of Peter Kirby, Yvonne Couch took over as Recorder for Heteroptera (true bugs) and Adrian Knowles for Auchenorrhyncha (leafhoppers and allies).

The Exhibition and Social was held in November 2024 at the Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park, and was well attended by exhibitors and visitors. Council met 3 times in person and twice via Zoom; Council voted in February 2025 to move to holding all Council meetings via Zoom.

The Essex Moth Group held their annual meeting on 1 March 2025 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre.

Essex Field Club/ Essex Recorders partnership continued to act as the single biological and geological records centre for Essex.

It has been recommended that the charitable status of the Essex Field Club should change from an Unincorporated Association Charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation; this is being discussed and is ongoing.

### **Membership**

As of 7 March 2025, the Essex Field Club has a total of 262 members for the year 2025. Out of these, 233 members have already paid their subscription. The remaining 29 members who have yet to pay include 6 institutional members, who traditionally tend to pay later in the year following a polite reminder.

In terms of payment methods, there has been a noticeable decline in the number of members opting to pay by cheque. Instead, the preference continues to shift towards payment via banking order or PayPal, with some members also now choosing to deposit directly into our bank account.

Sadly, over the past 12 months, we have lost a number of members due to their passing, which has affected our overall membership count.

Overall, the club is in a strong position, with most members renewing their memberships early, and the late payments typically being resolved without issue, following a polite reminder in March coinciding with the AGM invitation going out.

---

### **Meetings**

Field meetings took place at several venues, with usually three visits to each site. All visits to

Causeway End Felsted, Tiptree Heath and Hazeleigh Woods had generally good weather and were well-attended. One of the three trips to Northey Island was curtailed due to heavy rain, and both trips to the Nevendon Washland Reserve had poor weather. There were additional trips to Carver Barracks, Debden and an extra one to Ramsey Marsh to make up for poor weather at the spring trip the previous year.

The Fungi Group held several autumn meetings, including a Waxcap special at Fryerning Churchyard. There were walks at Mill Meadows, Billericay and at Tiptree Heath and a joint meeting with the Essex Wildlife Trust to Sandylay Nature Reserve, Great Leighs. There were also forays at Swan and Cygnet Woods, Stock and another at Norsey Wood, Billericay with the Norsey Wood Society.

### **Green Centre Activities**

The Club's activity area and displays were open to the public on the first Saturday of each month. The Office and Archive were in regular use on Wednesdays by some Council members, and were available for visits on a pre-booked basis.

Using the foyer, display areas and part of the Carstairs Room (thanks to Twizzletops day nursery for access), we held the Exhibition and Social at the Green Centre on 30 November 2024, with 23 exhibitors and 100 persons attending. Refreshments were provided, 53 Essex Naturalists were given to members, thus saving postage, there were 2 new memberships, and 7 people renewed their membership.

### **Publications**

#### **Essex Naturalist**

The 2023/2024 Essex Naturalist comprised 249 pages with 29 articles and all colour illustrations. An excellent effort by editor Peter Harvey and the Editorial Team.

Modern Essex Naturalists can now be downloaded by paid-up members from our website, as well as the existing access to older issues through the searchable archive.

#### **The EFC Newsletter**

There were the usual 3 issues of the Newsletter, with colour illustrations and many interesting articles as well as wildlife updates, reports of some meetings that had taken place, and listings of forthcoming meetings. .

Our latest Newsletters can now be downloaded from the website by paid-up members, as well as the existing access to older issues through the searchable archive.

### **Collections**

In April, at the invitation of Kelvin, Graham Ward's brother, Bill George and Martin Heywood recovered further material from Graham's bungalow including minerals, rocks, fossils, worked flints and archaeology. Bill is sorting this material as time permits. Items from Martin Gregory's collection have been sorted and the fungi and myxomycete specimens, which are vulnerable to pest damage, stored in metal cabinets. There are a number of microscopes and other equipment which need to be found good homes. In July, Adrian Knowles delivered the second tranche of beetle data from Nigel Cumming's collection and has been paid accordingly. He continues to work on this project as time permits. Yvonne Couch has completed cataloguing Nigel's Hemiptera and the spreadsheet is available on the

Club website. She has also catalogued Roger Payne's entomology collection and the spreadsheet is available on the website. Four drawers of Roger's butterfly collection are on display at the Green Centre. Graham Ekins is making progress in writing his report on the Avifauna. Pest monitoring continues and shows a relatively low number of the main pest, *Anthrenus verbasci*. A program to freeze the deer pelts was carried out in the spring and the silica gel in the geology collection was checked and renewed where necessary. Thanks are due to all who have worked on the collections over the past year.

### **Library and Archives**

Our library and archive, held at the Green Centre, has been open to the public on the first Saturday of each month and, by appointment, on a Wednesday. Email enquiries have been answered, and articles and images supplied as requested for research, publication, and display. Often researchers follow up online queries with a visit. Guided tours of the library, archive and collections are popular and two were organised for the Annual Exhibition and Social. We acted as a clearinghouse for book donations from several individuals. Some were added to our library while others were made available, for a donation, to members and guests at our AGM and Exhibition and Social. Books, journals, maps, images and manuscripts were added to our library and archive. Barbara and Richard Chapman very kindly facilitated a major donation of books, manuscripts, digital images and 35mm slides from the collection of Roger Payne. Work has continued on sorting out the collections of Mike Daniels and Graham Ward. A large number of images from our archive including photographs, prints, lantern slides and glass negatives have been shared on Facebook and added to our website. Dr Roger Hewitt continued to use the library archive on a weekly basis producing articles for publications. Details of exchange journals and other library and archive information were regularly posted on our Facebook group.

### **A modern Photographic and Pictorial Survey and Record of Essex**

Images from our library and archive are constantly being scanned and added to the Essex Field Club website, which now holds almost 10,000 pictures. Any registered individual may easily add their own photographs by following the guidelines provided. Everyone is encouraged to upload their pictures as coverage is entirely dependent upon what participants choose to add. Finding existing images is easy - the website is readily searchable using keywords. For example searches including a place name such as Barking, Brentwood, Ilford and Purfleet, or a topic like bridge, church, fossil, portrait, urchin; or a surname will bring up images of dated photos of wildlife and geological sites, engravings, places, post cards, people, prints and more. Members and other users are encouraged to upload more photos of natural history subjects, such as geological sections, photographs of growing plants, veteran trees, habitat areas and of animals with their natural surroundings, our field meetings, passing events of importance, illustrations of old customs etc in line with the some of the aims of the Club's project in the early 20th century.

### **Datasearch System**

At the end of January 2025 there were 5,982,423 records for 15,494 species in database tables on our website, all for use by the on-line Datasearch System, which continues to provide comprehensive coverage of county records as an Essex Local Record Centre Service. As well

as species data, we also provide information on sites relevant to nature conservation contained in national datasets, together with information on geological sites which are of county and local importance. The datasearch reports also include maps with the Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) relevant to a search area and the corresponding searchable LoWS citations. Potential Local Wildlife Sites are provided where the GIS polygon data and citations are available.

Thanks to work by Mark Yeates, we can now generate GIS shape files for individual polygons held on the website including individual Local Geological Site and Local Wildlife Site shape files. We may be able to develop the inclusion of GIS outputs as part of the datasearch provision.

Free datasearch outputs were provided to the National Trust to inform woodland creation on a site near Tolleshunt D'Arcy and to the Essex Wildlife Trust for a number of their reserves.

We have also provided cranefly data to help with a cranefly IUCN national status review, mainly from Essex but including various other VCs and Scotland, with most of the data identified and digitised by the late Del Smith. We provided a new updated export of aculeate Hymenoptera data to BWARDS to aid their national status review process.

## **Website**

At the end of January 2025 our Records database table contained 3,247,114 records for 14,958 species in a very wide variety of taxonomic groups. The maps on the Species Account pages are automatically updated with data uploaded to the database and these pages currently provide ecological and phenological information for 9,491 species from over 2,257,791 records. Logged-on members can now access their own records in the database through their My Stuff page and the My Records link. They can also download a species report pdf from the species account pages. Active recorders who submit their records can be given access to the details of the records behind the dots on the maps by request.

County Recorders can add and update the text for species and they can also generate an atlas for different taxonomic groups based on the record data that has been recorded.

A new website record submission facility to allow direct submission of records for all groups via the website is being tested and there is likely to be some further development before going live, together with resolution on how we would deal with the consequent on-going quality control issues, not least of which is the work required to validate and verify records, which will require input from county recorders and other competent specialists. The system uses NBN Identification Difficulty codes with Essex-based codes for moths and associated text to inform recorders, and these can be developed for other groups by specialists, as can different data options agreed for different groups.

Digital pdf newsletters and journals are now downloadable to logged-on members, who may now also choose not to receive the newsletters and/or journals by post. Recent photos and recent records have been added to the home page and right pane.

Mark Yeates has replaced the google pie and bar charts used to display autecological data on the species pages with an in-house solution, resolving the labelling scripting complexity when there are numerous labels involved, so we are no longer dependent on Google who deprecated the google charts many years ago, and which Google have in fact subsequently removed.

All our HLF-funded laptop computers at our centre have been upgraded to Windows 11, so they will be supported with security updates after the Windows 10 support cut-off date of Oct 2025. We have also been donated two more modern laptops for use in our office by Basildon.

## **MapMate**

The EFC uses MapMate and Schemes software created by Teknica Ltd to automatically upload new and edited records from our own MapMate database to the Records table on the website and these data are used to populate the species pages. Our Records database table is also the source of our own records used in the datasearch outputs. MapMate and the Schemes software enable our recording and website to effectively manage the very large amount of species data we maintain for our historical Watsonian biological vice-counties of South and North Essex recording area.

Mark Yeates (MapMate Ltd) closed down the business side of MapMate on 30 November 2024 after designing, running and supporting MapMate since its creation 25 years ago. Mark stated that “Users will be supported, updated, and the infrastructure maintained (funded privately) until the last licence has expired during October 2026. During 2025, important aspects of the program (like making taxon update patches) will be passed on to any interested parties. Hopefully over this time you can decide what's next for your recording or continue using MapMate for as long as our recording community (and Windows!) supports it”.

Butterfly Conservation has already taken on responsibility for updating the MapMate Lepidoptera Taxa Library and will continue to manage this until further notice. If necessary the role could be taken on for other taxonomic groups at a county or regional level, and we could manage this ourselves if necessary, but it will be better for us to wait and see whether this is resolved nationally through the MapMate Support Group.

Moving forward MapMate should continue to work until at least Microsoft support for Windows 11 comes to an end, and there is no reason why this would not continue afterwards. The Club will therefore continue to use MapMate to maintain our county records and upload records to the website. EFC Council also agreed to fund the bulk purchase of 100 new MapMate licences with Mark Yeates privately funded support until 28 February 2026, and we can offer these to members who currently do not use MapMate for their recording. Although any new software takes time to get used to, the use of MapMate should be quite straightforward and we can also offer support and hopefully also training course sessions at the Green Centre to cover more advanced use.

## **Essex Recorders partnership**

The Essex Wildlife Trust joined the partnership at the Spring 2024 Steering Group meeting much to the benefit of the county. Our data partners have provided data updates. Commercial use of the Datasearch System continues to provide income, all of which is used to support the Club, our partner county data-providing organisations and to be made available for grant applications which support recording in the county.

At the Autumn Steering Group meeting a grant application to the CNHS to support publication of a booklet about the threatened Middlewick Ranges site in Colchester was approved.

## **Planning**

When time and resources allow, we continue to provide input to planning applications in the county affecting sites of high nature conservation importance.

Efforts to save the Middlewick Ranges Local Wildlife Site after its adoption by Colchester City Council in their Local Plan for housing development despite its well-known very high nature conservation value have finally produced some potentially good news thanks to the combined efforts and support of the Friends of Middlewick Ranges, Buglife, Butterfly Conservation, Colchester Natural History Society, CPRE Essex, Essex Field Club, Essex Wildlife Trust and RSPB following advice to Colchester City Council by Natural England.

EFC field meetings in 2021-23 and Essex Moth Group meetings in 2023 provided the modern evidence for its SSSI invertebrate status. A comprehensive new botanical assessment carried out during 2024 confirmed that Middlewick Ranges supports the largest remaining intact acid grassland habitat in Essex. New evidence gathered in late 2024 has also confirmed that the grassland supports a previously unknown regionally important assemblage of waxcap fungi. Enormous efforts by the Chair of the Friends of Middlewick Ranges and 2024 surveys confirmed that Colchester Barracks (including Middlewick Ranges) is a nationally significant site for Nightingales, probably second in importance only to Chattenden Woods and Lodge Hill SSSI in Kent and that Middlewick Ranges and the adjacent Birch Brook Woodland LoWS together support an outstanding assemblage of bats including the Globally Near Threatened, European Vulnerable and GB Vulnerable Barbastelle (*Barbastella barbastellus*) with a maternity roost confirmed locally.

A Middlewick Ranges Nature Reserve Vision for Middlewick Ranges and Birch Brook Woodland was created by the Friends of Middlewick Ranges and is supported by Buglife, Butterfly Conservation, Colchester Natural History Society, CPRE Essex, Essex Field Club, Essex Wildlife Trust and RSPB. A report giving the case for SSSI designation has been produced by Buglife, Butterfly Conservation, Colchester Natural History Society, Essex Field Club, Essex Wildlife Trust and Friends of Middlewick.

## **Publicity**

### **Online Social Media**

#### **Facebook**

The Club's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/essexfieldclub>) continues to grow, now having over 1,200 members. There have been over 78,000 views in the past 12 months, with a spike on 17 July 2024 and a larger spike (1,900) on 21 February 2025. There have been over 1000 posts (Max=15 on 30 July 2024).

The group started using the online Chat feature to discuss topics ranging from "Is buddleia bad for wildlife" to "Why children need to read about plants at a time of climate change".

The Facebook page is set up for information purposes only and not designed to be interactive, unlike the group. The page has 258 likes and 335 followers. It has received 47,800 views since 23 September 2024 (no data available before then) and reached 17,800 profiles.

#### **Instagram**

An Instagram account has been set up which has the capacity to share content from the Facebook Page (the accounts are linked).

#### **Twitter**

The Club's Twitter account (@EssexFieldClub) is not active due to access issues. It has 378 followers (down from 404 in 2024) and is following 37 accounts (down from 42).

### **Real World Publicity**

The Exhibition and Social took place on 30 November 2024 and was attended by 100 people.

Talks about the Essex Field Club have been given to RSPB Stort Valley and Thames Chase. A panel discussion on the benefits of volunteering was attended at Writtle College, and a landowner's event in Wimbish provided networking with landowners and other conservation groups in the area. Future in-person events include a talk to EWT Havering and Colchester Cage Bird Society.

## **Finance**

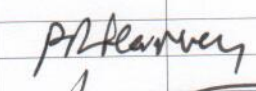

In 2024 the financial status of the Essex Field Club remained strong. Datasearch reports, our main income source, continue to be at a comparable level to previous years. Interest on savings showed a marked rise in 2024 due to the move in September 2024 of a large sum from the internet account into a 95-day Lloyds account paying significant interest.

Our accountants continue to manage our quarterly VAT accounts, to prepare the year's accounts from the account information we provide and to ensure the accounts are independently examined.

Essex Recorders partnership finances are included in the accounts. The income from data provision is restricted for use to support the partnership in line with the Terms of Reference agreed by the partners each year at the Spring Steering Group meeting. £10,000 is treated as partnership reserve and other funds are used to support the data providers of the partnership while some is available to provide grants for projects which support recording in the county.

This Annual Report has been prepared with due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

<b>ESSEX FIELD CLUB</b>			
<b>YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024</b>			
<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>			
		<b><u>31/12/2024</u></b>	<b><u>31/12/2023</u></b>
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions		3,806	4,169
Publications and postage		100	216
Interest receivable		13,285	3,580
Donations		458	2,444
Data provision		119,915	117,883
		<b>137,564</b>	<b>128,292</b>
<b>Overheads</b>			
Essex Naturalist		5,983	6,114
Newsletters		3,875	1,953
Postage and telephone		535	79
Hire of halls		149	258
Insurance		699	515
Accountancy fees		1,725	1,725
Legal and professional costs		2,563	1,400
Mapmate		189	189
Website		3,926	989
Sundry		113	1,393
EFC Centre		4,020	3,778
Essex Recorders partnership		43,118	39,989
Catering		624	843
Bank and Paypal charges		1,974	-
		<b>69,493</b>	<b>59,225</b>
<b>Surplus / (Loss) for year</b>		<b>68,071</b>	<b>69,068</b>
<b>Retained surplus bfw</b>		<b>498,561</b>	<b>429,494</b>
<b>Retained surplus cfw</b>		<b>566,632</b>	<b>498,561</b>

<b>ESSEX FIELD CLUB</b>			
<b>YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024</b>			
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Lloyds Term investment		32,605	31,615
Lloyds Business investment account		25,469	25,169
Lloyds Internet account		37,606	249,167
Lloyds Treasurer's account		3,572	1,735
Lloyds 32 day notice account		31,685	30,900
Cambridge & Counties Bank 3 yr		89,611	85,321
Hampshire Trust Bank 2 year		92,334	85,113
Lloyds 95 day notice account		252,705	-
Cash		1	1
Debtors		9,108	-
		<b>574,695</b>	<b>509,022</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accruals		1,725	1,725
VAT		5,305	8,385
		<b>7,030</b>	<b>10,110</b>
		<b>567,665</b>	<b>498,911</b>
<b>Net assets</b>			
<b>Financed by capital funds</b>			
Income and expenditure account		567,315	498,561
Museum fund		350	350
		<b>567,665</b>	<b>498,911</b>
<u>Notes</u>			
Some funds of the Club are restricted			
Income from Data Searches supports and funds projects of the Essex Recorders partnership			
			P. Harvey
			S. Taylor



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees**

Charity Name  
Essex Field Club

**On accounts for the year ended**

31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1113963
--------------------------------	----------------------------	---------

**Set out on pages**

1-2  
(insert '0' to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2024**

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**  **Date:**

**Name:**

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):**

**Address:**

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

Restricted funds committed in 2024 EFC accounts:

£90,458.77

(£27,729.40+ £27,729.37 to be paid as 50% partner splits, £10,000 ERp core, £25,000.00 for grant applications)

2023 £92,503.81

2024 £90,458.77

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1113963

---

# Accounts

---

## **Annual Report of Council for 2023-24**

### **General Introduction and Administration**

The EFC Spring Meeting and AGM was held on 25th March 2023 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre, and was attended by 33 members and 4 guests. New Ordinary members of Council (and thus Trustees) were Marc Outten and Jim Silverstone; James Lumbard took on the role of Programme Secretary. Members voted to accept the proposal by Council that our Rules be amended to allow Council meetings, Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings to be held in person, online, by telephone, or on a hybrid basis.

A talk by Sarah Brockless about the introduction of Eurasian Beavers *Castor fiber* at the Spains Hall Estate, their effects on biodiversity and on reducing flooding in nearby Finchingfield was enjoyed by all, and led to a lively discussion.

The Exhibition and Social was held in December 2023 at the Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park. Council met 4 times in person and once via Zoom.

The Essex Moth Group held their annual meeting in February 2024 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre.

Our current treasurer, Richard Parsons, will be retiring at the 2024 AGM; while we did find someone who it was hoped would replace Richard, this fell through in February 2024 and we expect to be without a treasurer at the 2024 AGM.

Essex Field Club/ Essex Recorders partnership continued to act as the single biological and geological records centre for Essex.

It has been recommended that the charitable status of the Essex Field Club should change from an Unincorporated Association Charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation; this is being discussed and is ongoing.

### **Membership**

As of February 2024 we have 276 members, 223 of whom have paid.

### **Meetings**

Ken Adams led a moss, liverwort and fern survey with I.D. tuition in April at Norsey Wood. Yvonne Couch led a Ladybirds and Shieldbugs Field Course at RSPB Rainham Marshes in May. There were 12 general field meetings, at Middlewick Ranges, Ramsey Marsh, Wallasea Island and the Chelmer and Blackwater Nature Reserve in Maldon; 2 moth trapping events were organised jointly by the Essex Moth Group and Colchester Natural History Society; the Essex Fungi group held meetings at Norsey Wood, Tiptree Heath, woods around Stock, Mill Meadows and Galleywood Common, but as it was a poor year for fungi, 2 other fungi meetings were cancelled.

### **Green Centre Activities**

The Club's activity area and displays were open to the public on the first Saturday of each month. The Office and Archive were in regular use on Wednesdays by some Council members, and were available for visits on a pre-booked basis.

Using the foyer, display areas and part of the Carstairs Room (thanks to Twizzletops day nursery for access), we held the Exhibition and Social at the Green Centre on 2nd December 2023, with 18 exhibitors and over 60 persons attending. Refreshments were provided, 57

Essex Naturalists were given to members, thus saving postage, there was 1 new membership, and 6 people renewed their membership.

## **Publications**

### **Essex Naturalist**

The 2022/2023 Essex Naturalist comprised 220 pages with 24 articles and all colour illustrations. An excellent effort by editor Peter Harvey and the Editorial Team.

Many Essex Naturalists can now be downloaded by paid-up members from our website, as well as the existing access to older issues through the searchable archive.

### **The EFC Newsletter**

There were the usual 3 issues of the Newsletter, with colour illustrations and many interesting articles as well as wildlife updates, reports of some meetings that had taken place, and listings of forthcoming meetings. Yvonne Couch took over from Peter Harvey as editor from the January 2024 issue. Peter had been editor for many years and is responsible for making it the excellent publication it is today.

Our latest Newsletters can now be downloaded from the website by paid-up members, as well as the existing access to older issues through the searchable archive.

## **Collections**

Graham Ekins has completed cataloguing and reviewing the avian taxidermy and is writing a report. Nigel Cuming collection: Yvonne Couch has completed her work on the Heteroptera and is making good progress on the Homoptera. Adrian Knowles is continuing to work on the Coleoptera and other groups as time permits.

Jane Gregory, sister of the late Martin Gregory, has been very helpful in sorting out and making available Martin's natural history collections and records. These are mostly of fungi and myxomycetes. We have also been given two decent microscopes and other equipment of use to the Club.

The family of the late David Turner has donated a number of London Clay fossils collected by David. Most are from Roxwell gravel pit.

Among the visitors we have welcomed to look around the collections and library are Frank Street and his team who manage the nature reserves and country parks in Basildon District; Basildon Golf Course Biodiversity Group; and Essex Wildlife Trust Conservation Evidence Team.

Thanks are due to all who have worked on the collections over the past year.

## **Library and Archives**

Our library and archive, held at The Green Centre, has been open to the public on the first Saturday of each month and, by appointment, on a Wednesday. Email enquiries are answered, and articles and images supplied as requested for research, publication, and display. Often researchers follow up online queries with a visit. Guided tours of the library, archive and collections are popular and two were organised for the Annual Exhibition and Social. We acted as a clearing house for book donations from several individuals. Some were added to our library while others were made available, for a donation, to members and guests at our March AGM and December Exhibition and Social. Books, journals, maps, images and

manuscripts were added to our library and archive. Jane Gregory very kindly facilitated a major donation of books, manuscripts and ephemera from the collection of her late brother Martin Gregory. Work has continued on sorting out the recently donated collections of Mike Daniels and Graham Ward. Images from our archive including photographs, prints, lantern slides and glass negatives have been shared on Facebook and added to our website. Dr. Roger Hewitt continued to use the library and archive on a weekly basis, producing articles for publications. Details of exchange journals and book reviews were submitted for publication in our newsletter and posted on our Facebook group.

### **Datasearch System**

There are now 5,398,438 records for 15,308 species in database tables on our website, all for use by the on-line Datasearch System, which continues to provide comprehensive coverage of county records as an Essex Local Record Centre Service. As well as species data, we also provide information on sites relevant to nature conservation contained in national datasets, together with information on geological sites which are of county and local importance. The datasearch reports also include maps with the Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) relevant to a search area and the corresponding searchable LoWS citations. Potential Local Wildlife Sites will be provided when all the GIS polygon data and citations become available. With Council's agreement MapMate Ltd undertook work to substantially improve the provision of records in complex search areas.

A free Wethersfield Airfield datasearch report was provided for the local group fighting Government plans for the airfield and on request a report on the Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land Priority Habitat status of the Airfield based on three survey visits to the site in 2011 was also provided. We also provided a number of other free datasearches such as North Thames Estuary species data for Natural England and for three country parks in Havering.

Sawfly data was provided for a Phase 1 and 2 sawfly national status review, and aculeate Hymenoptera (bees, wasps and ants) data were provided to BWARS (Bees, Wasps & Ants Society) for a national status review. Macro-moth data up to and including 2022 was provided for a new Larger Moths of the London Area.

Water Vole and American Mink records for the overlap of 10km buffer of the GiGL (Greenspace Information for Greater London) and the Essex Field Club region were provided to GiGL for a London Water Vole Recovery Programme project looking to join up Water Vole conservation and American Mink control efforts across London.

Stag beetle records for the Parishes of Wormingford, Little Horkesley, Great Horkesley, Boxted, Langham, Dedham, Lawford, Manningtree, Mistley and Bradfield were provided to Suffolk Wildlife Trust to enable them to target the creation of suitable deadwood habitat to support this species in the Stour Valley.

### **Website**

At the end of January 2024 our Records database table contained 3,051,930 records for 14,727 species in a very wide variety of taxonomic groups. The maps on the Species Account pages are automatically updated with data uploaded to the database and these pages currently provide ecological and phenological information for 9,317 species from over 2,068,709 records. Logged-on County Recorders can add and update text for these species and provide recorders with access to the details of the records behind the dots on the maps. Thanks to

recorders who have submitted fish records and Johnnie Johnson, our county recorder for fish, we now have species pages and maps for freshwater fish on the website using these initial available records.

Pages were added to the website to provide Bluelands Quarry “Purfleet on Thames” factsheets that can also be downloaded and also the QR code for this resource to be used on the notice board at Bluelands Quarry on the south side of the A1306 near the M25 roundabout.

### **The Essex Recorders partnership**

Our data partners have provided data updates. Commercial use of the Datasearch System continues to provide income, all of which is used to support the Club, our partner county data-providing organisations and to be made available for grant applications which support recording in the county.

At the spring Steering Group meeting two grant applications were approved. One was for funding to the Colchester Natural History Society towards the publication of their *Nature In North East Essex* journal. The other was to the Chelmer Blackwater Reserve Community Interest Company for mammal recording on the newly created Chelmer Blackwater Reserve. The project intends to involve the local community with observing and recording the wildlife on the Reserve and so encourage them to do the same in the wider environment.

The Essex Wildlife Trust and Place Services were invited to the Essex Recorders partnership Steering Group meetings held on 15 April and 4 November 2023 when various matters were discussed including the emerging Essex Local Nature Partnership (LNP).

### **Essex Local Nature Partnership**

Invertebrate assemblage quality data were provided to the Essex County Council in February 2023 for every monad (1km square) in the county to help inform the Local Nature Recovery Strategy opportunity map, as part of our contribution to the developing Essex Local Nature Partnership.

Two meetings of the revived Local Sites Partnership were held in September and November 2023, when recent reviews of Local Wildlife Sites in Uttlesford and Thurrock were ratified, with Maldon next on the agenda.

Our county recorders responded to a late call for input to the Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy requesting their expertise and advice to inform the species long list (and therefore the priorities list) for Essex. This is to help determine where the most appropriate spaces are for nature recovery in the county. We also provided county data for all species with relevant national conservation, rarity and Essex Red Data List status to inform the emerging Long List. A follow-up meeting in January explored this complex issue in more depth.

### **Planning**

When time and resources allow, we continue to provide input to planning applications in the county affecting sites of high nature conservation importance. Efforts to save the Middlewick Ranges Local Wildlife Site after its remarkable adoption by Colchester City Council in their Local Plan for housing development despite its well-known very high nature conservation value continue. Field meetings in 2023 have added to the evidence for its SSSI status and there has been lots of activity in response to a Colchester City Council Green Network and Waterways consultation, providing an opportunity to try and get Colchester City Council to remove Middlewick Ranges from the Local Plan for development and make the wider area a country park / nature reserve. These concerted efforts have been down to the Save Middlewick group, Essex

Ecology, Essex Wildlife Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Colchester Natural History Society, Buglife, the eminent national expert Steven Falk and the Club.

## **Publicity**

### **Essex Life Magazine**

The Club continued to have articles published in Essex Life magazine until May 2023, but have now stopped doing so.

### **Online Social Media**

#### **Facebook**

The Club's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/essexfieldclub>) continues to grow, now having over 1,100 members, though most are not subscribing members of the Essex Field Club. Our Facebook page has 277 followers. Although it appears not as popular as the group, the page is set up for information purposes only and not designed to be interactive, unlike the group.

#### **Twitter**

The Club's Twitter account (@EssexFieldClub) has 404 followers, and is following 42 accounts. It is mainly used to publicise Club events and to share interesting wildlife tweets.

## **Finance**

In 2023 the financial status of the Essex Field Club remained strong with income stable and a small decrease in expenditure.

Datasearch reports, still very much our main income source, declined slightly, not significantly, over 2023. There was a small decrease in subscription income more than balanced by an increase in donations, for which the Club is grateful. Interest on savings showed a marked rise in 2023.

Overall, overheads decreased in 2023. Essex Naturalist and Newsletter costs reflected the number of issues included in the year and the number of pages. Room hire fell in 2023, apparently because winter meetings were paid for in Dec 22 and Jan 24. Again, in 2023, we required extra help from our accountants. Mapmate and Website costs went down because no extra development expenses were incurred. *Sundry* expenditure items were the transfer of Nigel Cumings collection to the Green Centre and AGM speaker's fee.

Essex Recorders' partnership payments are included in the accounts, slightly higher in 2023 than in 2022. This is income from data provision restricted for use to support the partnership. £10,000 is treated as partnership reserve and other funds are used to support the data providers of the partnership while some is available to provide grants for projects which support recording in the county.

This Annual Report has been prepared with due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

<b>ESSEX FIELD CLUB</b>		
<b>YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023</b>		
<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>		
	<u>31/12/2023</u>	<u>31/12/2022</u>
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	4,169.33	4,726.48
Publications and postage	215.59	213.62
Interest receivable	3,580.46	1,881.80
Donations	2,444.27	1,999.83
Data provision	117,882.61	120,227.50
	<b>128,292.26</b>	<b>129,049.23</b>
<b>Overheads</b>		
Essex Naturalist	6,113.84	7,299.88
Newsletters	1,953.05	4,553.78
Postage and telephone	79.24	161.81
Hire of halls	258.00	395.05
Insurance	514.68	543.48
Accountancy Fees	1,725.00	1,500.00
Legal and professional costs	1,400.00	700.00
Mapmate	189.00	1,789.00
Website	989.17	1,437.29
Sundry	1,392.88	4,813.00
EFC Centre	3,777.58	4,044.95
Essex Recorders partnership	39,989.06	38,598.44
Catering	843.13	294.25
	<b>59,224.63</b>	<b>66,130.93</b>
<b>Surplus / (Loss) for year</b>	<b>69,067.63</b>	<b>62,918.30</b>
<b>Retained surplus bfwd</b>	<b>429,493.84</b>	<b>366,575.54</b>
<b>Retained surplus cfwd</b>	<b>498,561.47</b>	<b>429,493.84</b>

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023****BALANCE SHEET****Current Assets**

Lloyds Term investment	31,615.33	31,000.00
Lloyds Business investment account	25,169.36	24,949.82
Lloyds Internet account	249,166.69	184,665.05
Lloyds Treasurer's account	1,735.34	(1,212.62)
Lloyds 32 day notice account	30,899.87	30,247.97
Cambridge & Counties Bank 2 yr	85,321.22	83,227.53
Hampshire Trust Bank 2 year	85,112.99	85,112.99
Cash	1.00	1.00
	<b>509,021.80</b>	<b>437,991.74</b>

**Current liabilities**

Accruals	1,725.00	1,620.00
VAT	8,385.33	6,527.90
	<b>10,110.33</b>	<b>8,147.90</b>

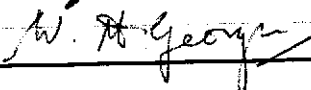
**Net assets****498,911.47      429,843.84****Financed by capital funds**

Income and expenditure account	498,561.47	429,493.84
Museum fund	350.00	350.00
	<b>498,911.47</b>	<b>429,843.84</b>

**Notes**

Some funds of the Club are restricted

Income from Data Searches supports and funds projects of the Essex Recorders partnership

 R.Parsons W.George



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Essex Field Club

On accounts for the year ended

31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 Charity no (if any) 1113963

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
• the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
• the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: D Bradford

Date: 11/03/2024

Name: Mr Daniel Bradford

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

MAAT - Association of Accounting Technicians

Address: 36 Southernhay, Basildon, Essex SS14 1ET

**Section B Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Restricted funds committed in 2023 EFC accounts:

**£92,503.81**

(£28,751.91 + £28,751.90 to be paid as 50% partner splits, £10,000 ERp core, £25,000.00 for grant applications)

2022 £86,902.89  
2023 £92,503.81

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1113963

---

# Accounts

---

ESSEX FIELD CLUB  
ANNUAL REPORT for 2022-23

### **General Introduction and Administration**

While the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic continued to have some impact on the Club's activities this year, things were gradually opened up. The Natural History Show did not take place, but we held the Exhibition and Social in December. Council met 5 times in person. The EFC Spring Meeting and AGM went ahead on 14th March 2022 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre. Understanding that some members might still be wary of meeting in person, the Club's Annual Report, Accounts, Independent Examiner's Report and a voting form were sent to all members, by email or post, in early March. The AGM was attended by 33 people, and another 12 who were unable to attend on the day voted beforehand. Talks by Simon Taylor (the footpaths, bridleways and byways of Essex, their rules, monitoring and enforcement) and Yvonne Couch (My Menagerie: rearing shieldbugs and ladybirds) were enjoyed by all.

New Ordinary members of Council (and thus Trustees) were John Cooke and Rob Smith; many thanks to Jill Ireland and John Skinner, who stepped down this year.

The Essex Moth Group held their annual meeting in February 2023 in the Cordite Room of the Wat Tyler Centre.

Since September 2021, when the Essex Wildlife Trust decided to stop acting as a biological records centre, Essex Field Club/ Essex Recorders partnership have by default become the single biological and geological records centre for Essex.

### **Membership**

As of 16/2/23 we have 296 members (18 Family, 9 Institutions, 3 Honorary), of which 249 have paid.

### **Meetings**

Yvonne Couch led a field course on Ladybirds and Shieldbugs; Neil Harvey planned a field course on Plant Galls and Leaf Mines but this was cancelled due to lack of interest.

There were 13 general field meetings at EWT Cranham Marsh, Middlewick Ranges Local Wildlife Site, Lofts Farm, Laindon Common and New Hall Farm, 4 Fungi group meetings at Norsey Wood, Swan, Cygnet and Hankins Woods, Tiptree Heath and Fryerning Churchyard, and 4 moth trapping meetings took place in association with Colchester Natural History Society.

### **Green Centre Activities**

After the closure of the Green Centre to the public from the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, the decision was made to open the Club's activities and displays to the public on the first Saturday of the month, starting from August 2022. The Office and Archive have been in regular use on Wednesdays by some Council members, and have been available for visits on a pre-booked basis.

Due to the main meeting rooms at the Green Centre being occupied by Twizzletops day nursery since 2020, we have had less space for our larger meetings, but on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022, we successfully held the Club's Exhibition and Social in the Green Centre, for the first

time since 2019. This was very popular, with 23 exhibitors and over 90 persons attending. Refreshments were provided, Essex Naturalists were given to members, there were 2 new memberships, and a number of people renewed their membership.

## **Publications**

### **Essex Naturalist**

The 2021/2022 Essex Naturalist comprised 280 pages with 32 articles and all colour illustrations. An excellent effort by editor Peter Harvey and the Editorial Team.

### **The EFC Newsletter**

There were the usual 3 issues of the Newsletter, with colour illustrations and many interesting articles as well as wildlife updates, reports of some meetings that had taken place, and listings of forthcoming meetings. Many thanks to editor Peter Harvey and everyone who contributed articles.

## **Collections**

Marion Cuming, widow of the late Nigel Cuming, offered his extensive collection of beetles and other invertebrates to the Club and in April 2022, with help from Adrian Knowles, it was transferred to the Green Centre. Yvonne Couch offered to catalogue the Hemiptera and is making good progress. Adrian has offered to catalogue the beetles and arrangements for this are in hand.

Beverley Pyner has donated Tim's bryophyte collection to the Club and Ken Adams arranged for its collection and delivered it to the Green Centre.

Graham Ekins is continuing his work in reviewing and cataloguing the avian taxidermy collection.

John Skinner continues to visit from time to time, continuing his programme of photographing the lichens.

In August an infestation of *Anthrenus* (carpet beetles) was discovered in some of the tropical invertebrate drawers. These drawers and surrounding drawers containing vulnerable material were frozen and the affected material is being cleaned up. During this process it was discovered that some of the wooden drawer bases had shrunk producing a gap between the base and side and this is the likely mode of entry for the beetles. These gaps have been sealed.

Among the visitors welcomed to view the collections and library were: Josh Childs, Basildon Council Biodiversity Officer; Helena Taylor, Co-ordinator for Essex Local Nature Partnership; Jes Dagley and Mark Iley, Essex Wildlife Trust.

## **Library and Archives**

Dr. Roger Hewitt continued to use the library archive on a regular basis, producing articles for publications. The Green Centre has been open to the public, on the first Saturday of each month, since August. Our e-mail inquiry service has continued uninterrupted. Biographical queries were answered, and images supplied for research publication and display. Often researchers follow up online queries with a visit. We acted as a clearing house for book donations from several individuals. Some were added to our library while others were made available, for a donation, to members and guests at our December Exhibition and Social.

Maps, images and manuscripts were kindly donated to our library and archive. David Bain most kindly arranged for the transfer of photographs, manuscripts etc. from the collection of the late Mike Daniels. These have now been sorted and made available to enquirers. Jeff Saward kindly went through Graham Ward's extensive archive of Essex Rock and Mineral Society newsletters etc. Again, this is now available to researchers. Details of exchange journals and book reviews were submitted for publication in our newsletter and posted on our Facebook group council. Images from our archive including photographs, lantern slides and glass negatives have been shared on Facebook.

### **Website**

At the end of January 2023 our Records database table contained 2,949,425 records for 14,603 species in a very wide variety of taxonomic groups. The maps on the Species Account pages are automatically updated with data uploaded to the database and these pages currently provide ecological and phenological information for 9,262 species from over 1,985,892 records. Logged-on County Recorders can add and update text on these pages and provide recorders with access to the details of the records behind the dots on the maps. Sawfly data were provided for a national sawfly conservation status review, the first phase of which has now been published. Aculeate Hymenoptera data has also been provided to BWARS (Bees, Wasps & Ants Recording Society) for a national status review.

### **Datasearch System**

There are now 5,247,149 records for 15,109 species in database tables on our website, all for use by the on-line Datasearch System, which continues to provide comprehensive coverage of county records as an Essex Local Record Centre Service. As well as species data, we also provide information on sites relevant to nature conservation contained in national datasets, together with information on geological sites which are of county and local importance. We also now provide maps in the pdf report showing the Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) relevant to a search area and the corresponding LoWS citations. The LoWS data does not include Potential LoWS (sites identified as likely to qualify as a LoWS, but for which there was insufficient information available to confirm this at the time the LoWS review was undertaken) although this will soon be possible when the GIS polygon data and citations become available.

Since our Datasearch System is now the only source of desk study information to companies and ecological consultancies to support planning applications in the county, use of the system has increased substantially, and we had to register for VAT in mid February 2022. We have also provided a number of free datasearches to bodies such as Basildon Parks & Countryside Service, Buglife, Danbury Ridge Living Landscape Group, English Heritage Trust, Essex County Council country parks, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority and Natural England.

### **The Essex Recorders partnership**

Our data partners have provided data updates. Commercial use of the Datasearch System continues to provide income, all of which is used to support the Club, our partner county data-providing organisations and made available for grant applications which support recording in the county.

Following the Covid-19 lockdown period Steering Group meetings restarted in April and November 2022. At the autumn meeting a grant application from the Essex Bat Group for a Motus Wildlife Tracking System Project was unanimously approved. The Steering Group also approved a change to a pay-by-card at time of order only system, removing the substantial work needed to chase overdue and very overdue proforma invoices. This change took place on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022, after several weeks warning.

The Essex Wildlife Trust and Place Services were invited to the Essex Recorders partnership Steering Group meeting held on 12 November where the background to the emerging Essex Local Nature Partnership (LNP) was explained and our involvement discussed. The LNP would revive a Local Sites Partnership to enable new Local Wildlife and Local Geology Sites to be ratified, and a key importance of the strategy would be in co-ordinating resources in the county, acting as a one-stop for effort and advice. Essex only has a year in which to submit a fully-consulted Plan, in order to obtain government approval. There will be a meeting in spring 2023 to look at the draft opportunities map for the county.

### **Planning**

Even with our data from only a few visits in 2021, Natural England's Chief Scientist Directorate invertebrate specialist had stated the Local Wildlife Site **Middlewick Ranges** has merit in being considered as an extension of the existing SSSI. We have consistently made clear that the site warrants a Site of Special Scientific Interest designation and our very limited field meeting surveys have now recorded over 1,000 invertebrate species and demonstrated seven invertebrate Species Assemblages in favourable SSSI condition, yet astonishingly the examination process by the Inspectorate of the Colchester Borough Council Local Plan did not find any reason to exclude the site from its housing allocation.

### **Publicity**

#### **Essex Life Magazine**

The Club continues to have articles published in Essex Life magazine. This option, which emerged in 2021, has settled on a 2-page spread format featuring a primary image with several smaller ones and around 500 words of text. Monthly submissions were made, although twice they were carried over to the following issue, the Editor citing lack of space. Topics in 2022 were: Winter Birds (Graham Ekins); Tree ID in Winter (Yvonne Couch); Slugs (Simon Taylor); Hoverflies (Roger Payne); My local patch – North Road burial ground, Westcliff (Roger Payne); Inside the Essex Field Club (Bill George); Grasshoppers and Bush Crickets (Yvonne Couch); Hadleigh Great Wood (Roger Payne); Nocturnal invertebrates (Daniel Blyton); and Plant Galls (Yvonne Couch). Essex Wildlife Trust have also now recommenced submissions.

### **Online Social Media**

#### **Facebook**

The Club's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/essexfieldclub>) continues to grow, now having 908 members, though most are not subscribing members of the Essex Field Club. Our Facebook page has 250 followers and 209 likes. Although it appears not as popular as the group, the page is set up for information purposes only and not designed to be interactive, unlike the group.

#### **Twitter**

The Club's Twitter account (@EssexFieldClub) has 414 followers, and is following 42

accounts. It is mainly used to publicise Club events and to share interesting wildlife tweets.

## **Finance**

In 2022 the financial status of the Essex Field Club and Essex Recorders partnership became stronger with a large increase in income due to a large increase in Datasearch Reports and a smaller increase in expenditure..

Datasearch reports, our main income source, increased dramatically over 2022. There was a small increase in subscriptions consistent with the Club's stable membership. The Club is very grateful for all donations. Interest from bank accounts showed an apparent decline over the year owing, mainly, to a fixed term deposit account not reporting a balance until the end of term in 2023.

Several overheads showed small increases in line with general inflation but some changed significantly. We required extra help from our accountants to cope with VAT returns and this has led to increased legal and professional costs. Expenditure on room hire and catering increased, reflecting a return to real face to face meetings in 2022. Mapmate and Website costs increased because of significant software development needs. Postal disruption in December delayed important payments in particular those to the printer for the Essex Naturalist. Costs associated with the Green Centre were lower in 2022 owing to our ability to reclaim the VAT component of rent and broad band expenditure and also because the Club received some COVID rates relief. *Sundry* expenditure items were the purchase of six new display cabinets and a notice board.

Essex Recorders partnership funds are included in the accounts. These are income from data provision restricted for use to support the partnership. £10,000 is treated as partnership reserve, to support the data providers of the partnership and to make £25,000.00 available to provide grants for projects which support recording in the county. These are Restricted Funds in the accounts.

This Annual Report has been prepared with due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	<u>31/12/2022</u>	<u>31/12/2021</u>
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	4,726.48	4,703.21
Publications and postage	213.62	166.22
Interest receivable	1,881.80	3,445.83
Donations	1,999.83	2,424.40
Data provision	120,227.50	73,975.68
	<u>129,049.23</u>	<u>84,715.34</u>
<b>Overheads</b>		
Essex Naturalist	7,299.88	8,094.12
Newsletters	4,553.78	3,334.64
Postage and telephone	117.88	82.15
Hire of halls	395.05	65.35
Insurance	543.48	518.81
Stationery and printing	43.93	34.90
Accountancy Fees	1,500.00	1,620.00
Legal and professional costs	700.00	-
Mapmate	1,789.00	184.50
Website	1,437.29	977.31
Sundry	4,813.00	9,000.00
EFC Centre	4,044.95	6,623.94
Essex Recorders' partnership	38,598.44	34,829.50
Catering	294.25	-
	<u>66,130.93</u>	<u>65,365.22</u>
<b>Surplus / Loss for year</b>	<u>62,918.30</u>	<u>19,350.12</u>
<b>Retained surplus b/w</b>	<u>366,575.54</u>	<u>347,225.42</u>
<b>Retained surplus c/w</b>	<u>429,493.84</u>	<u>366,575.54</u>

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**  
**BALANCE SHEET**

<b>Current Assets</b>		
Loyds Term investment	31,000.00	30,678.87
Loyds Business investment account	24,949.82	24,937.02
Loyds Internet account	202,964.93	114,858.57
Loyds Treasurer's account	(19,512.50)	1,635.15
Loyds 32 day notice account	30,247.97	30,149.62
Cambridge & Counties Bank 2 yr	83,227.53	83,227.53
Hampshire Trust Bank 3 year	-	83,357.68
Hampshire Trust Bank 2 year	85,112.99	-
Cash	1.00	1.00
	<b>437,991.74</b>	<b>368,845.44</b>

<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accruals	1,620.00	1,920.00
VAT	6,527.90	-
	<b>8,147.90</b>	<b>1,920.00</b>

<b>Net assets</b>		
Income and expenditure account	429,493.84	366,575.44
Museum fund	350.00	350.00
	<b>429,843.84</b>	<b>366,925.44</b>

**Financed by capital funds**

	<b>429,843.84</b>	<b>366,925.44</b>
--	-------------------	-------------------

Notes

Sundry payments for 2022 were for new display cabinets and notice board  
 Some funds of the Club are restricted  
 Income from Data Searches supports and funds projects of the Essex Recorders partnership

Treasurer R. Parsons  
 President W. George



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Essex Field Club

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1113963

**Set out on pages**

1-2

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2022**.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

**Date:**

02/03/2023

**Name:**

Mr Daniel Bradford

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

MAAT - Association of Accounting Technicians

**Address:**

36 Southernhay, Basildon, Essex SS14 1ET

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

Restricted funds committed in 2022 EFC accounts:

**£86,902.89** .

(£25,951.45 + £25,951.44 to be paid as 50% partner splits, £10,000 ERp core, £25,000.00 for grant applications)

2021 £71,797.91

2022 £86,902.89

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1113963

---

# Accounts

---

ESSEX FIELD CLUB  
ANNUAL REPORT for 2021-22

### **General Introduction and Administration**

The Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic continued to affect the Club's activities this year. A vaccination program allowed most restrictions on meeting indoors and outdoors to be lifted in June 2021, however uncertainty as to what might happen in the future led to the Natural History Show and the Exhibition and Social both being cancelled for 2021. Council met 5 times: 2 in person, and 3 online using John Cooke's Zoom account; while not all Council members were able to participate online, they made their views known via email.

The EFC Spring Meeting and AGM went ahead on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021, via Zoom. Understanding that some members would be unable to attend virtually, the Club's Annual Report, Accounts, Independent Examiner's Report and a voting form were sent to all members, by email or post, in early March. The Zoom AGM was attended by 30 people, and another 13 who were unable to attend on the day voted beforehand. Neil Phillips then gave an interesting talk on "The Wildlife of Daws Hall Nature Reserve", with many beautiful photos.

New Ordinary members of Council (and thus Trustees) were Daniel Blyton and Graham Ekins; many thanks to Peter Allen, who stepped down this year; Bill George replaced Simon Taylor as President, but Simon remains on Council as a Past President; Neil Harvey replaced Martin Heywood as Vice-President. John Cooke reluctantly decided to stand down as Programme Secretary in August, but was later co-opted as an Ordinary Member of Council.

Sadly the Club lost 2 outstanding entomologists this year, Del Smith (county Diptera recorder) and Peter Hammond (county Coleoptera recorder) both dying after long illnesses. Phil Collins was appointed as new county Diptera recorder, and Roger Payne as Coleoptera recorder.

### **Membership**

We currently have 297 members of which (as of 31/01/2022) 70 have yet to pay for 2022. 3 Institutional members have declined to renew, and 2 have been lapsed due to not answering communications.

### **Meetings**

All meetings proceeded under Covid-19 restrictions. Simon Taylor, county recorder for Mollusca, ran a field course on slugs and snails. General field meetings to the Wilderness Foundation at Chatham Green, Little Belhus Country Park, Middlewick Ranges local wildlife site, Lofts Farm, Havering

Country Park, and Daws Hall Nature Reserve (joint with Colchester Natural History Society) went ahead, as did fungal group field meetings to Havering Country Park, Canvey Wick, Warley Place and Fryerning Churchyard, and some moth group meetings.

### **Green Centre Activities**

While the Club's interactions with the public at the Green Centre have remained suspended, the Office and Archive have been in regular use on Wednesdays by some Council members, and have been available for visits on a pre-booked basis.

### **Publications**

#### **Essex Naturalist**

The 2020/2021 Essex Naturalist comprised 348 pages with 40 articles and many colour illustrations. An excellent effort by editor Peter Harvey and the Editorial Team.

#### **The EFC Newsletter**

There were the usual 3 issues of the Newsletter, with colour illustrations and many interesting articles as well as wildlife updates, reports of some meetings that had taken place, and listings of forthcoming meetings. Many thanks to editor Peter Harvey and everyone who contributed articles.

### **Collections**

An exercise, which began in 2020, to refreeze items in the collections which were last frozen before 2016 has now been completed. A catalogue of the egg collections made by Colin Plant in 1983 was digitised by Fiona Hutchings in 2018. It has now been type checked. Several enquiries concerning bird specimens in our collections were received and answered. Four old and incomplete Vickers microscopes were given to the Quekett Microscopical Club in return for a donation to Field Club funds. A block of shelly sandstone from the Oldhaven Beds at the excavations for the A13/M25 junction was donated by Gerald Lucy and will make an attractive display item. Graham Ward has donated his geological collection to the Club. It consists of seven cabinets of excellently curated minerals and a quantity of other material from sites in Essex, which adds to the material collected by Graham when working at the Passmore Edwards Museum and which is already in our collections. Mike Daniels passed away in September and the non-avian component of his fossil collection has been donated to the Club. N.B. the avian fossils were bequeathed to the

National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh. We are greatly indebted to the knowledgeable help of Bill George in dealing with these last two donations. As a result of continuing donations the archive is becoming increasingly congested. We are therefore grateful that Graham Ekins has begun a review of the bird specimens with recommendations as to their future. It is hoped that this will enable us to responsibly pass on or dispose of specimens unwanted by ourselves under our Disposal Policy.

### **Library and Archives**

Dr. Roger Hewitt continued to use the library and archive on a regular basis, producing articles for our publications. Our email enquiry service continued uninterrupted. Biographical queries were answered, and images supplied for research, publication and display. We acted as a clearing house for book donations. Books, maps, images and manuscripts were also kindly donated by several individuals including Del Smith, Peter Allen, Howard Mendel and Terry Lilley. Details of exchange journals and book reviews were submitted for publication in our Newsletter and posted on our Facebook Group. Council kindly agreed to the purchase of a scanner for use at the Green Centre. This is being used to scan some images from our archive, including photographs, magic lantern slides and glass negatives which have been shared on Facebook.

### **Website**

Since the Teknica-designed website went live in 2007 there have been over 591,172 sessions and 2,769,473 page views from 361,887 unique visitors and 205 countries (at January 2022), the majority from the United Kingdom, Europe and United States, but a substantial number from many other countries in the World.

The maps on the Species Account pages are automatically updated with data uploaded to the Club's Records database table and these pages currently provide ecological and phenological information from 1,867,530 records on 9,230 species. Following a request from the new County Recorder, beetles have been included in these but with the warning that the data are incomplete with many records for the county not yet available. As has always been the case, logged-on County Recorders can add and update text on these pages and provide recorders with access to the details of the records behind the dots on the maps.

Logged-on members can now generate pdf taxon reports in the Species Account pages which demonstrate the value of structured recording data in understanding the autecology of a species. This script developed by Peter Harvey has also been extended to enable whole atlases to be generated from the species data held on the website for any of our county recorder taxon groups so that in theory up-to-date pdf atlases can be generated at the click of a button.

Where present for a taxon this can include species text, photos, identification difficulty ratings, and other resources could be added to these atlases, such as coverage and diversity maps, advice for groups, etc.

Due to some issues with the server towards the end of 2021 and warnings from the hosting company that the server dating from April 2014 was getting very old, Council agreed to the move to a new server. This eventually took place in February after all the issues resulting from the change to the latest server software versions had been ironed out.

### **Datasearch System**

Our Datasearch System continues to provide comprehensive coverage of county records as an Essex Local Record Centre Service and we also provide information on sites relevant to nature conservation contained in national datasets, together with information on geological sites which are of county and local importance. Following the closure on 30 September 2021 of the Essex Wildlife Trust BRC, our Datasearch System is now the only source of desk study information to companies and ecological consultancies to support planning applications in the county. Whilst always subject to wide variations from week to week and month to month, following the closure of the EWT BRC, use of the system has increased substantially with many new customers, and it seems likely the Club will have to register for VAT in the foreseeable future.

We have been provided with Local Wildlife Site (LoWS) polygon GIS by Essex County Council and Essex Wildlife Trust which are provided as maps in the pdf report output, and will also soon be able to include the relevant citations.

There are now 4,409,486 records for 15,093 species in the database (at January 2022) in a very wide variety of taxonomic groups on our website, all for use by the on-line Datasearch System.

Important Invertebrate Areas (IIAs) are nationally or internationally significant places for the conservation of invertebrates and the habitats upon which they rely. Buglife has provided us with the Important Invertebrate Areas (IIA) GIS and these have been added to the Datasearch System outputs. In the county IIAs principally affect the Essex coast, the Thames estuary and the Lee Valley.

### **The Essex Recorders partnership**

Covid-19 lockdown once again prevented Steering Group meetings in March and November from taking place, but updates were sent out and decisions made by email.

Our data partners have provided data updates. Commercial use of the Datasearch System continues to provide income at a comparable rate to previous years, all of which is used to support the Club, our partner county data-providing organisations and made available for grant applications which support recording in the county.

## **Planning**

The emerging Colchester Local Plan is currently subject to examination by the Inspectorate and the Essex Field Club has responded on each occasion to the public consultation process since 2017 in relation to the extraordinary inclusion by CBC of the Local Wildlife Site **Middlewick Ranges** in its housing allocation where we have consistently made clear that the site warrants a Site of Special Scientific Interest designation. With very limited recent data available for the site, we held 4 field meetings there in 2021 (effectively at most three days, with 2 half days due to rain and none in favourable weather conditions) and recorded 548 invertebrate species. This includes modern records of previously recorded species, new county records, a number of rare and scarce species and a male Near Threatened Nationally Rare pipunculid fly *Tomosvaryella minima* which is the only confirmed record in Britain for the last 50 years (1977 to 1996), with none at all in the last 25 years. Natural England's Chief Scientist Directorate invertebrate specialist has looked at these limited data and states the site has merit in being considered as an extension of the existing SSSI. We await the outcome of the Inspectorate's examination.

## **Publicity**

A small group of Council members have started to write a monthly wildlife article for Essex Life Magazine, including the Club's name and so giving us publicity.

## **Online Social Media**

### **Facebook**

The Club's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/essexfieldclub>) had 823 members as of 13th February 2022, increased from 689 last year.

### **Twitter**

The Club's Twitter account (@EssexFieldClub) had 382 followers at 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022, up from 286 last year, and is mainly used to publicise Club events and to share interesting wildlife tweets.

## **Finance**

After another pandemic year the financial status of the Essex Field Club remains strong with appreciable increases in both income and expenditure. Datasearch reports remain our major income source, significantly increased on 2020. This increase has continued into 2022 and has recently taken the Club over the VAT threshold. Interest from bank accounts has, unsurprisingly, decreased a little while both donations and subscriptions have increased. The

Club is very grateful for all donations.

Overheads have apparently increased to pre-pandemic levels. However, much of this increase is accounted for by two items. Firstly, some Essex Recorders partnership payments were deferred from 2020 to 2021 and secondly, the Club made a large grant towards the publication of a new and much expanded and improved edition of Essex Rock which will be published shortly. Increase in Green Centre overheads reflect additions to the geological collection and 2022 first quarter rent paid in December.

Essex Recorders partnership funds are included in the accounts. These are income from data provision restricted for use to support the partnership. £10,000 is treated as partnership reserve and other funds are used to support the data providers of the partnership while some is available to provide grants for projects which support recording in the county.

This Annual Report has been prepared with due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	<u>31/12/2021</u>	<u>31/12/2020</u>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions	4,703.21	4,165.81
Publications and postage	166.22	162.48
Interest receivable	3,445.83	3,666.34
Donations	2,424.40	2,062.74
Data provision	73,975.58	67,207.25
	<u>84,715.24</u>	<u>77,264.62</u>
<b>OVERHEADS</b>		
Essex Naturalist	8,094.12	8,614.00
Newsletters	3,334.64	3,987.12
Postage and telephone	82.15	10.50
Hire of halls	65.35	517.44
Insurance	518.81	487.04
Printing, postage and stationery	34.90	-
Legal and professional costs	1,620.00	1,920.00
Mapmate	184.50	180.00
Website	977.31	1,142.08
Sundry	9,000.00	7.00
Travel	-	48.60
EFC Centre	6,623.94	3,857.92
Essex Natural History Show	-	-
Essex Recorders' partnership	34,829.50	14,988.70
Catering	-	805.20
	<u>65,365.22</u>	<u>36,565.60</u>
<b>SURPLUS/LOSS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<u>19,350.02</u>	<u>40,699.02</u>
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS BFW</b>	<u>347,225.42</u>	<u>306,526.40</u>
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS CFWD</b>	<u>366,575.44</u>	<u>347,225.42</u>

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019**  
**BALANCE SHEET**

	<u>31/12/2021</u>	<u>31/12/2020</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Lloyds Term Investment	30,678.87	30,590.62
Lloyds Business Investment account	24,937.02	24,934.75
Lloyds Internet account	114,858.57	99,426.05
Lloyds Treasurers account	1,635.15	1,163.48
Lloyds 32 Day Notice account	30,149.62	30,140.72
Cambridge & Counties bank 2 yr	83,227.53	81,595.62
Hampshire Trust bank 2 yr	83,357.68	81,643.18
Cash	1.00	1.00
	<u>368,845.44</u>	<u>349,495.42</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES: WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>		
Accruals	1,920.00	1,920.00
	<u>1,920.00</u>	<u>1,920.00</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>366,925.44</u>	<u>347,575.42</u>
<b>FINANCED BY CAPITAL FUNDS</b>		
Income & Expenditure Account	366,575.44	-
Museum Fund	350.00	350.00
	<u>366,925.44</u>	<u>350.00</u>

**Note**

Sundry payments for 2021 consist of a grant towards Essex Rock

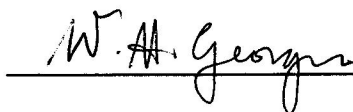
Some funds of the Club are restricted.

Income from Data Searches supports and funds projects of the Essex Recorders partnership.



R. Parsons

Treasurer



W. George

President



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Essex Field Club

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1113963

**Set out on pages**

1-2

page of

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2021**.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

*D Bradford*

**Date:** 24/02/2022

**Name:**

Mr Daniel Bradford

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

MAAT – Association of Accounting Technicians

**Address:**

Flat 10, Rosslyn Court, Runnymede Road, Stanford le Hope, Essex SS17 0NR

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Restricted funds committed in 2021 EFC accounts:

£71,797.91 (£18,398.97 + £18,398.94 to be paid to support partners, £10,000 ERp core, £25,000.00 for grant applications.

2020 £67,031.50

2021 £71,797.91

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	<u>31/12/2021</u>	<u>31/12/2020</u>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions	4,703.21	4,165.81
Publications and postage	166.22	162.48
Interest receivable	3,445.83	3,666.34
Donations	2,424.40	2,062.74
Data provision	73,975.58	67,207.25
	<u>84,715.24</u>	<u>77,264.62</u>
<b>OVERHEADS</b>		
Essex Naturalist	8,094.12	8,614.00
Newsletters	3,334.64	3,987.12
Postage and telephone	82.15	10.50
Hire of halls	65.35	517.44
Insurance	518.81	487.04
Printing, postage and stationery	34.90	-
Legal and professional costs	1,620.00	1,920.00
Mapmate	184.50	180.00
Website	977.31	1,142.08
Sundry	9,000.00	7.00
Travel	-	48.60
EFC Centre	6,623.94	3,857.92
Essex Natural History Show	-	-
Essex Recorders' partnership	34,829.50	14,988.70
Catering	-	805.20
	<u>65,365.22</u>	<u>36,565.60</u>
<b>SURPLUS/LOSS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<u>19,350.02</u>	<u>40,699.02</u>
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS BFW</b>	<u>347,225.42</u>	<u>306,526.40</u>
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS CFWD</b>	<u>366,575.44</u>	<u>347,225.42</u>

**ESSEX FIELD CLUB**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019**  
**BALANCE SHEET**

	<u>31/12/2021</u>	<u>31/12/2020</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Lloyds Term Investment	30,678.87	30,590.62
Lloyds Business Investment account	24,937.02	24,934.75
Lloyds Internet account	114,858.57	99,426.05
Lloyds Treasurers account	1,635.15	1,163.48
Lloyds 32 Day Notice account	30,149.62	30,140.72
Cambridge & Counties bank 2 yr	83,227.53	81,595.62
Hampshire Trust bank 2 yr	83,357.68	81,643.18
Cash	1.00	1.00
	<u>368,845.44</u>	<u>349,495.42</u>
 <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES: WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>		
Accruals	1,920.00	1,920.00
	<u>1,920.00</u>	<u>1,920.00</u>
 <b>NET ASSETS</b>		
	<u>366,925.44</u>	<u>347,575.42</u>
 <b>FINANCED BY CAPITAL FUNDS</b>		
Income & Expenditure Account	366,575.44	-
Museum Fund	350.00	350.00
	<u>366,925.44</u>	<u>350.00</u>

**Note**

Sundry payments for 2021 consist of a grant towards Essex Rock


Some funds of the Club are restricted.

Income from Data Searches supports and funds projects of the Essex Recorders partnership.



R. Parsons

Treasurer



W. George

President



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Essex Field Club

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1113963

**Set out on pages**

1-2

page of

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2021**.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

*D Bradford*

**Date:** 24/02/2022

**Name:**

Mr Daniel Bradford

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

MAAT – Association of Accounting Technicians

**Address:**

Flat 10, Rosslyn Court, Runnymede Road, Stanford le Hope, Essex SS17 0NR

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Restricted funds committed in 2021 EFC accounts:

£71,797.91 (£18,398.97 + £18,398.94 to be paid to support partners, £10,000 ERp core, £25,000.00 for grant applications.

2020 £67,031.50

2021 £71,797.91